

Education. In 1980, Mrs. Kawaratani received her Adult Education Designated Subjects Credential from the University of California State College.

Mrs. Kawaratani began her career teaching at Barber's Point Elementary School in Hawaii. Upon graduation from Columbia Teacher's College, Lilian moved to Monterey Park and began teaching at Euclid Ave. Elementary School in East Los Angeles. After taking time off to raise her children, Lilian returned to teaching for the Alhambra School District's Adult Education ESL program until she retired in 1999.

Lilian has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service. Lilian was a Board Member and Coordinator for the United Methodist Pre-School's Mother Helpers Program. She has held various positions for the PTA, served on the GATE Advisory Board, and volunteered as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader. Mrs. Kawaratani has also held various offices at the California Council of Adult Education, where in 1988 she was awarded the CALCO Award for Excellence in Teaching. Lilian also serves as the Membership Chair for the Friends of Monterey Park Library Board.

Most notably, Lilian is admired for her volunteer work with the Monterey Park Library's LAMP (Literacy for All of Monterey Park) Citizenship Classes. Following her retirement, Lilian was invited to help teach Citizenship Classes for the library for two hours per week. Lilian's passion for teaching was made apparent as she spent up to eight hours a day at the library and often met one-on-one with adult learners to further prepare them for their citizenship tests and interviews. Her efforts have directly helped 50 to 100 students annually become proud new American citizens. As Lilian enters her eighth year of teaching for LAMP, she has seen over 700 students attain U.S. Citizenship and has devoted thousands of hours of service.

In addition to her many professional and personal accomplishments, Mrs. Kawaratani is a wife and mother of four children and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Kawaratani's devotion to her career and her long-time commitment to the prosperity of our community serves as a true inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Lilian Kawaratani.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN CHACON, SR.

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a great community activist, role model, loving father, husband, and grandfather, John Chacon, Sr.

John was born in El Paso, Texas, on July 6, 1935, but he called California home, as he resided in Ventura County for over 63 years.

John graduated from Oxnard High School in 1955. In 1957, John married the love of his life, Frances "Pancha" Castro, with whom he shared 50 years of happy marriage.

Professionally, John worked over 25 years for W.B. Post and Nick Wargo Construction Companies. He was a lead paving foreman for

19 of those 25 years. At the age of 52 John retired, but he remained active in the community, particularly with his labor union. He was an active member of Laborers Local 585 for 46 years.

John's accomplishments in the community are too many to list here, but some of his most notable include: membership in Los Compadres del Rio, membership in the Rio Mesa High School Boosters Club, and a founding, charter membership in the Mexican-American Golf Association.

John's passions included golfing, gardening, camping at Lake Cachuma, backyard barbecues with family and friends, and listening to mariachi music.

John was well-known throughout the community for cooking his famous "tripas" and his secret salsa recipe. He made friends everywhere he went, and could never go anywhere in the community without someone recognizing him.

On March 4, 2007, John passed away from a sudden illness. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Frances; son, John Jr.; daughters, Rosemary and Barbara; grandchildren, Jennifer, Vincent, Francesca and Analisa; and his four sisters.

Let us pay tribute to John for the man he was and the example he set for all of us to follow. His dedication to family and friends, and his love for his community was evidenced in all that he did.

Although he is no longer with us, John's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to John Chacon, Sr. He will always have a place in our hearts for everything he gave to his loved ones and community.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE OF WENDY MILLER

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wendy Miller of Jamison, Pennsylvania for her dedication to our soldiers overseas. Her efforts have brought hope to many soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as here at home.

For the past three years, Ms. Miller, working through the program Anysoldier, has collected various supplies, clothes, and treats from family, friends, and neighbors. Each year she collects a thousand homemade valentines and hundreds of homemade cards and letters from area children. She then ships the packages to the units requesting supplies on anysoldier.com.

Ms. Miller has shipped 130 boxes already, and plans to ship another 100 in the next month. She has taken the initiative to organize volunteers in four other neighborhoods to help collect the donations. The project has been so successful that she plans to send at least 500 boxes by the end of the year.

Her hard work has not gone unappreciated. In fact, Madam Speaker, Ms. Miller has received letters from soldiers, thanking her for the supplies, for the hope each shipment gives

them, and for the reminder that they are not forgotten. The generosity of the hundreds of residents who participate in this project is overwhelming, and the devotion of Ms. Miller is incredible.

One letter of thanks from a soldier serving in Afghanistan reads "Your care package got our soldiers smiling after a long day." Madam Speaker, as a veteran of the Iraq war, I rise today on behalf of American soldiers to thank Wendy Miller and her neighbors for their unending dedication and generosity.

IN THE GAME OF LIFE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in tribute of slain Marine Jimmy Regan, Albert Carey Caswell, United States Capitol Tour Guide, penned the following poem:

"In the game of life,
There's only what's wrong or right!
For there are only the very few, who shall so
shine there so who . . . are so very
bright!

"For only one thing so counts,
For only one score so adds up, that which so
amounts . . .
For it's all about what we've so said and
done, and what is really true . . . as so
to be won!

"For there are no second chances!
In these our short minutes, upon this earth
. . . as our time here so advances . . .
Our goal! All in what we've said and done, for
whom we've so bled . . . to take our
valiant stances!

"Whether, upon fields of green . . .
Or on oh so heroic battlefields of honor
seen . . .

Jimmy, was always the one! A brave heart!
As a leader of men, time and time
again!

"A Marine's Marine,
A brave heart who once so lived, who so gallantly
chose to give . . .
Facing death, with only his magnificent
courage left . . . his heart of a lion
seen could not be checked!

"Fast breaking in the game of life, writing
his book of sacrifice . . .
To this our world he so gave, but never took
. . . no mistaking around him the earth
so shook!

Strength in Honor . . . was his great life's
measure, in each and every step he ever
took!

"For so few of us shall ever be such a treasure,
For so few of us such magnificence, as a hero
to their Country shall be so measured!
Such Splendid Splendor, was Jimmy . . .
who to our Lord's heart brought such
pleasure!

"For in the minutes and the hours,
Of our lives upon this earth we give now,
upon all others which so shower!
Are our gifts of Freedom and Peace, in our
Lord's eye's hold such power!

"To Make a Difference With It All,
To be a champion in life! As what Jimmy so
lived for and died, as for what he saw!
Could we, would we . . . ever such the
strength so find, to stand as tall as him
in time?

"In the game of life,